

The Scranton Tribune

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TEN PAGES.

SCRANTON, NOVEMBER 9, 1898.

The side plates of the Pennsylvania Democracy are evidently as badly warped as those of the Maria Theresa.

The Result in Pennsylvania.

Returns at a late hour leave small doubt of the election of William A. Stone and the Republican state ticket by a plurality little short of Chairman Eldin's Monday estimate.

The tremendous Swallow vote in Lackawanna county is not easy to explain, and attempts to analyze it may well be deferred until it can be studied in detail.

Returns on congressman at the hour of going to press are insufficient to warrant an estimate of plurality, but the indications point to a safe margin for the present incumbent—probably 2,000.

Mr. Garman is doubtless glad that he was so modest in making estimates on the result.

The Result in New York.

No campaign in the first state of the union has ever attracted so much attention from the country at large, or for that matter, from the civilized world, as the one which closed yesterday.

The election of Theodore Roosevelt is an unmistakable gain for good government everywhere. It might have been consummated by a larger plurality.

If Dr. Swallow was in Washington the capitol explosion mystery would no doubt have been explained ere this.

The War Investigation.

A good deal of valuable information has been gathered by the war investigating commission. Its report will undoubtedly embody numerous practical suggestions worthy to be enacted into legislation.

The bulk of the responsible testimony given before the commission goes to establish that there was great confusion at the beginning of hostilities; that orders were given and countermanded apparently without reason; that troops were directed to do things without being supplied with the necessary means of doing them.

Had this war lasted a year or two most of the kinks in its management would undoubtedly have been straightened out. But in spite of the kinks it ended in victory in only a little over 100 days—a fact which ought to compensate for all the privation and the suffering.

President Muro's ideas concerning the proper form of a constitution for the Cuban republic indicate that he is abreast of the times. He believes it would be unwise to subject the young republic to the strain of frequent presidential elections.

vote in the congress, thus enabling the executive branch to keep the legislative branch at all times informed of its wishes and needs; and he is inclined to require that whenever the two houses of the parliament become deadlocked there shall be a dissolution and a fresh vote of instruction from the people.

The Fifty-Sixth Congress.

It is announced with an appearance of authority that soon after the expiration of the present congress the president will convene the congress elected yesterday in extra session to consider especially subjects of legislation growing out of the new territory which has come to us through the war.

This would leave involved the entire problem of the form of government for Porto Rico, Guam and the Philippines; the extent and conditions of our military occupancy of Cuba and our intervention among the people of that island in the creation of a stable government; the reorganization of our army and navy to meet these demands and profit by the lessons we have just learned; the readjustment of the tariff and revenue laws to fit these new conditions and much other legislation of importance contingent upon these main problems.

Altogether it is clear that the Fifty-sixth will be an important congress. Its labors will be far more complicated and exacting than were those of the war congress, which was carried along on waves of feeling and had simply to follow the tide.

Let Them Suggest a Better Plan.

The Washington Star makes the timely point that those Republican and Democratic critics who are not satisfied with the administration's attitude respecting the Philippines, who are saying it is not right and should not be tolerated, should suggest a feasible alternative.

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One Problem That Demands Attention.

From the Philadelphia Press. "What shall we do in Asia, Australia, or in the Indian Ocean? That is the question behind all the diplomatic sparring and the preparations for war now going on.

What do his American opponents propose? Permanent control, or abandonment? Dewey's fleet to return, or to stay? They should speak up fully and clearly. The attitude and the language simply of warning are not instructive in this matter.

Transportation in Cuba.

No problem is more in need of intelligent solution in Cuba than the problem of transportation. A correspondent of the Chicago Record throws light upon present conditions when he writes from Havana: "One railroad 123 miles long has three first-class coaches, five second-class coaches and eight third-class coaches. They are in bad condition, and would not be acceptable to a second-rate road in the United States.

passenger is \$7.40 in gold, a distance of 123 miles as stated. Added to this is a government tax of 10 per cent, and a small fixed tax which the railroad collects from the passenger for the government. The total fare for the distance is a few cents less than \$9.

The high prices for shipment and travel and the poor condition of the rolling stock and equipment form only a part of the trouble. Lately there has been some consolidation of the different systems, but there remain fourteen different systems. The annoyance and vexation which this causes the shipper may best be explained by saying that in shipping a carload of freight from Havana to Cienfuegos four different railroads are used.

We believe that public sentiment would sustain the secretary of the navy in going to extraordinary lengths in trying to recover the Christina Colon. The loss of the Maria Theresa, instead of discouraging him, should have the opposite effect. It would be a lasting pity if none of the ships so gallantly submerged at Santiago should be lifted up and added to our navy.

TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajacchus, The Tribune Astrologer. Astrological cast: 2:59 a. m., Wednesday, Nov. 9, 1898.

A child born on this day will notice that Swallow ran well, but the chances were not as numerous in every county as had been anticipated.

Perhaps the Hon. J. Wanamaker has by this time been able to solve the question: "Who is William Connell?"

The Maria Theresa is said to have landed on Cuba. There is probably no more appropriate place for the landing of Maria.

IF WAR SHOULD RECUR.

From the New York Sun. It is hardly conceivable that the situation at Paris can result in the renewal of war by Spain.

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Take a map of Asia and note the Russian and English possessions on that the greatest interest in every country as well as the best interests of the islands themselves, and of the world at large, call for permanent American control of the archipelago.

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St. Helena is predicted that in fifty years Europe would be republican or Cosack. More than fifty years have passed but Napoleon's prophecy has not come true. So he would be a bold prophet who would attempt to predict whether Anglo-Saxon or Muscovite influence will be predominant in Asia half a century hence.

The United States has been so absorbed in its rapidly expanding power and wealth during the past thirty years that she has taken little note of the changes going on in Asia. Now, however, the Philippines are held, this country cannot remain indifferent to Asiatic changes in the man of that continent will be made, and that shortly, seems inevitable.

UNIFORM DIVORCE LAWS.

From the Philadelphia Ledger. The diversity of state divorce laws, and the facilities which many of the enactments on the subject extend to those who, without sufficient reason, desire to be released from the marital bond, have been deplored by many publicists.

A few years ago one of the newspapers of Fargo, N. D., reported that a restaurant of the hotels and boarding houses of the city showed that the "local divorce colony" then numbered about 120 members.

The mischief of loose and divergent divorce legislation are well epitomized in the following sentence by the writer of an article asking that body to empower the federal commissioners of labor to collect the statistics of marriage and divorce.

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